

P A T E N T C L A I M S

1. Conjugate comprising
- 5 a. a biospecific affinity counterpart (target-seeking group) that is capable of binding to a predetermined structure, and
- b. a peptide that
- 10 i. contains an amino acid sequence that is derived from a superantigen,
- ii. has the ability to bind to a $V\beta$ chain of a T cell receptor, and
- iii. has a modified ability to bind to MHC class II antigens compared to the superantigen from which the peptide is derived,
- 15 which parts are covalently linked together.
2. The conjugate according to claim 1, **characterized** in that
- a. the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed towards a cell surface structure, and that
- 20 b. the conjugate has the ability to activate T-lymphocytes to lyse cells that exhibit the cell surface structure on their surface.
3. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-2, **characterized** in that the biospecific affinity counterpart is an antibody or an antigen binding fragment of an antibody.
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4. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-3, **characterized** in that it is a fusion protein.
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5. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-4, **characterized** in that the peptide is a mutated superantigen.
- 35 6. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-5,

characterized in that the peptide is derived from a superantigen and that its ability to bind to MHC class II antigens is altered with at least 10 %.

- 5 7. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-6, **characterized** in that the superantigen is staphylococcal enterotoxin A, B, C₁, C₂, D, or E.
- 10 8. The conjugate according to claim 7, **characterized** in that the superantigen in addition may be derived from staphylococcal enterotoxin H
- 15 9. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-8, **characterized** in that the structure against which the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed is a structure that is expressed on the cell surface during a disease, for instance a cancer, a viral infection, an autoimmune disease or a parasitic infestation.
- 20 10. A method for the lysis of mammalian cells, **characterized** in that the cells are contacted with T-lymphocytes and a conjugate according to any one of claims 2-9 in which the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed against a surface structure on the cells that are to be lysed, said incubation being performed under conditions allowing for lyse of said cells.
- 25 11. A method for selective lysis of cells (I) that are present together with other cells (II) and that express a structure that is preferentially occurring on those cells (I) that are to be lysed, **characterized** in that the cells (I) together with II) simultaneously are contacted with a conjugate according to any one of claims 2-9 in which the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed towards a surface structure
- 30 on the cells (I) that are to be lysed, said contact being performed under conditions permitting lysis.
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12. A method according to claim 11, **characterized** in that the cells (I) are associated with diseased conditions, such as a cancer, a viral infection, a parasitic infestation, an autoimmune disease etc.

13. A method for the treatment of a diseased condition of a mammal, which condition means the presence of specific cells that are associated with the condition by the expression of a disease specific surface structure, **characterized** in that one administers to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a conjugate according to any one of calims 2-9 in which conjugate the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed against the disease specific structure.

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C4

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C1